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two outer layers made of a porous fibrous or filamentous batting; and

an inner layer, disposed between and adherent to said two outer layers, said inner layer consisting of strands of thermoplastic adhesive in a latticework configuration which adheres directly to said outer layers, the thermoplastic adhesive strands having elastic properties at room temperature such that the inner layer causes said flat-shaped article to recover after tensile loading, thereby to allow said article to be elastically stretched.

20. A three-layer laminate consisting of:

two outer layers of a porous fibrous or filamentous batting, and

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an inner layer sandwiched between said outer layers, said inner layer consisting of strands of thermoplastic adhesive in a latticework configuration which adheres directly to the outer layers, each strand having a sinusoidal shape with vertices which touch or overlap the vertices of an adjacent strand so that each adjacent pair of strands forms a mirror symmetric configuration, the inner layer having elastic properties at room temperature, whereby